Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Canadian Forestry Service / Service Canadien des forêts

NO. 193

Canadian Forestry Service-Maritimes

TECHNICAL NOTE

FOREST INSECTS AND DISEASES IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND NATIONAL PARK IN 1987

Personnel of the Forest Insect and Disease Survey regularly survey national parks for forest insect and disease conditions. Some of the conditions encountered in Prince Edward Island National Park in 1987 are discussed briefly below.

Spruce budworm was present on spruce and fir in the Park in lower numbers than in recent years. Defoliation was generally light, with a few spruce moderately defoliated at scattered locations.

Birch casebearer, which causes browning of white birch, wire birch, and alder foliage, caused up to 80% browning of white birch and 60% browning of alders on Rustico Island. Light and trace browning was present elsewhere in the Park.

Balsam gall midge, which feeds inside galls on balsam fir needles, caused trace needle loss on the understory trees on Rustico Island.

Winter drying and salt spray, continuing problems in the Park, occurred in 1987. White spruce and red pine in exposed areas continued to lose needles. The area most affected extended from Dalvay to Rustico Island, where up to 20% of white spruce needles and 10% of red pine needles were affected.

Spruce bud scale was light on scattered, semi-mature white spruce in Rustico Island and trace on a few trees at Dalvay.

NURSERIES

PLANTATIONS

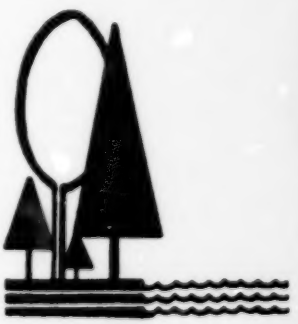
SILVICULTURE

UTILIZATION

ECONOMICS

TREE IMPROVEMENT

INSECTS AND DISEASES



Canadian Forestry Service - Maritimes
P.O. Box 4000, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5P7
P.O. Box 667, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E5
P.O. Box 190, Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 7K2

Cette publication est aussi disponible en français sur demande

Birch leafminer, which mines and feeds between the surfaces of the leaves, making the leaf appear brown, caused moderate browning of wire birch in the Park.

Serpentine leafminer, found mostly on trembling aspen, wanders inside the leaf, hence its name. Affected leaves take on a silvery-gray appearance. The leafminer caused trace damage of aspen foliage at Dalvay.

Spruce bud midge caused trace damage on small, roadside white spruce at Dalvay.

Spruce bud moths (Zeiraphera species), which feed under the bud caps of new spruce shoots were present as a trace infestation of small, roadside white spruce at Dalvay.

Bronze birch borer infested up to 12% of white birch on Rustico Island.

Ambrosia beetle were present in 64% of dead and deteriorating white birch trees on Rustico Island.

Spider mites were present in trace populations on all red pine at Dalvay.

Eriophyes sp., a mite which forms small, light-colored structures on hardwood foliage, was common but light on white birch at Dalvay.

Wax filament scale was present on two trees at Rustico Island.

Beetles - semi-mature white spruce trees in a plantation at Dalvay, having been defoliated and weakened by spruce budworm every year for the past number of years, have been further weakened by beetles attacking the stems, resulting in further deterioration of trees and up to 20% tree mortality. Beetles present include **balsam bark weevil, ambrosia beetle, four-eyed bark beetle, wood wasps,** and **sawyer beetles.** Populations of these organisms will probably continue to increase, resulting in deterioration and death of more trees.

Charles M.B. Dobson
Forest Insect and Disease Survey

May, 1988

Canada